

King's dream floating adrift...

As Connie sees It Opinion page 4

## INDEX

People	2
National News	3
Opinion	4
YouTube	5
Community News	6
Classifieds	7
Business	8

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## INSIDE

## Supreme Court may limit black representation in Congress

National news page 3

## Van Pelt returns to Plainfield

Lifestyles page 6

## GOVERNOR WHITMAN REPRIMANDS EMPLOYERS

TRENTON—Gov. Christine Whitman called on employers who penalized workers for staying home in the midst of the snowstorm to rethink that action. "We have received calls from more than 1,200 people whose pay is being docked for failure to report to work on Monday," said Gov. Whitman. "We banned snow days from Sunday through Tuesday morning because the roads were perilous and because we didn't want disabled vehicles to further exacerbate snow clean-up efforts," she said.

"I was stunned to learn that so many employers were taking such a hard-line on withholding pay," she said. She noted that the directive she issued Sunday morning declaring a state of emergency gave State Police extraordinary powers to maintain public safety and welfare. As a result, the Superintendent of State Police, Col. Carl Williams banned all but essential travel—defined as police and emergency personnel and health care workers—until Tuesday at 5 a.m. The Department of Labor received in excess of 1,000 calls on Tuesday from employees who said their employers were docking their pay for failure to report for work on Monday. The Governor's Office of Constituent Relations received an additional 250 calls on Wednesday.

## GOP CALLS FOR FULL INVESTIGATION

WASHINGTON DC—Rep. John Myers (R-IN), former ranking Republican member of the House Ethics Committee, recently told reporters that the special counsel hired by the committee must be free to examine all ethics allegations against the speaker. Myers then resigned as Chairman of the House Gym Committee, saying, "Gingrich runs every other committee up here. He may as well run that one too."

## RICE WANTS WALLS TO TUMBLE

NEWARK—Sen. Ronald L. Rice said Gov. Christine Whitman should encourage disrepair in New Jersey's urban residents for vetoing his proposed bill. Passed by a majority vote by both the senate and the assembly, Bill S-251 would have issued \$35 million dollars in bonds to be used to help demolish the more than 2,000 abandoned buildings in the city of Newark.

Despite bipartisan support for the plan, the governor's rejection of the bill is based on her contention that the cost would have too great an impact on the state treasury at a time when it needs to be fiscally conservative. Although the amendment to the bill provided for the municipality applying to provide an equal amount in matching funds, the governor would not be swayed.

"The governor demonstrated her insensitivity to urban and rural New Jersey," said Senator Rice (D-Essex). "She obviously cannot realize how abandoned buildings invite criminal activities, drain the local economy and draw down property values. One abandoned building will hurt an entire neighborhood when insurance companies drop their coverages and homeowners can't sell their properties. Tearing down these buildings would inject new life into neighborhoods, ward off criminal activity, and help out the

## CITY NEWS

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## STUDENTS TRAPPED IN POLICE SWEEP

by Charles Chrystal

NEWARK—In an effort to make some of Newark's citizens more comfortable, the city's administration has made bus stops dangerous for two young men on their way to work.

Timur Davis, 20-year-old junior at Jersey City State College, was waiting for the #13 bus at 10 a.m. on December 29 when they were arrested at a bus stop at Aldene Street and Lyons Avenue, as part of a police sweep of Newark's South Ward.

Timur Davis of Clifton Avenue, had been in the Weequahic section visiting his friend Tyrone McCullough and both men were on their way to work. Davis, who has been working for the Newark Public Library at the Madison Branch for three years, was

concerned about being late while McCullough called a girlfriend from the phone booth nearby.

McCullough, who is employed as a baggage handler at the Newark Airport was as surprised as his friend when several police and two paddy wagons descended upon them.

McCullough was shocked when the police officer snatched the receiver out of his hand and demanded to know who he was speaking to. The student said that the officer yelled into the phone demanding to know who it was and repeatedly accused him saying, "I know it's your connection."

The beat-tired pair were taken to the Newark's 5th precinct and charged with loitering and obstructing a public thoroughfare.

They were taken in with 20 to 30

other people, and despite their protests and their willingness to show their I.D.s, were arrested, searched, fingerprinted and detained for seven hours in a holding area without having been "Mirandized."

The pair said that they were released after someone was finally found that would consent to sign the arrest sheet.

Referring to the arrest report, Det. Daniel Collins of the Police Director's Office said, "Officers James Hill and Larry Blake were responding to a call that sidewalk access was being denied to bicyclists at Aldene Street and Lyons Avenue.

The officers claimed that they drove by and warned the party of young men to move on. They remained later and found the same group blocking access and forcing pedestrians to walk in the street.

At their arraignment at 31 Green Street in Newark, Davis and McCullough pled not guilty and asked for a public defender. When told of what was contained in the police report the young men shook their heads. McCullough said, "There were only two or three people waiting at the corner. We've never been arrested before and we sure didn't have anything on us."

"We tried to show them our I.D.s



Timur Davis, one of the students caught in the Newark Police sweep.

they would let us go but they wouldn't even look." When told that the neighborhood was a "hot spot" Davis replied, "This is a bus stop, the hot spot is in front of the bar across the street."

Their confusion was further com-

pounded when McCullough reported of someone who had been picked up with them who asked one of the officers when they would be able to go home. "The cop told him that we

See STUDENTS TRAPPED page 5

## Farrakhan named 'Man of the Year'

by William Reed



Min. Louis Farrakhan

Time, the nationally circulated weekly news magazine, annually names an outstanding individual in the world as its "Man of the Year." This year, Time named House Speaker Newt Gingrich (RGA) as the individual who had the greatest impact on American society the past year.

If Gingrich had the most impact on American society through his leadership of the U.S. House of Representatives and the formation of laws and policies for the country, who is it that had the most impact on Black American society in the year 1995? What individual had the most impact on African-American leadership? Who did the most in 1995 to

lead blacks to a higher plateau? Through informal polling of numerous grassroots and establishment leaders by the staff of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), there was a total consensus that such an individual is Louis Farrakhan, leader of the Nation of Islam.

With the success of the Million Man March, last October, the Honorable Louis Farrakhan has emerged as the most important leader of the masses of African-American people.

Although he has had a considerable national following since the mid-1980s, Farrakhan was voted the "Most Influential Black Leader in the 1994 Black Press of America's 'True Voice Poll"—it became impossible to ignore him after his "Men Only Meetings" campaigns in 1994 and 1995 and the groundswell of support and endorsements generated by black groups and individuals he generated before, and after, the Million Man March.

In his 40th year of public min-

See MAN OF THE YEAR page 6

## Eddie Bauer's tarnished image



Jan Johnson, VP City News Publishing Co., returns recent purchase from Eddie Bauer.

It is obvious that Eddie Bauer Inc. has changed and "does not get it" when it comes to handling fallout from the harassment of two teenagers at its Prince George's County MD. outlet store last October.

The incident generated much negative press for the company—enough to be worried of an outside PR counsel. But to rub salt into the wounds

Eddie Bauer hires a public relations firm to handle the situation of the teen who have filed a \$1.5 million law suit against the company alleging false imprisonment, defamation of character and violation of Civil Rights.

Black leaders in the Maryland area are very concerned that member of their communities—especially teenage males—are automatically scrutinized more closely by store employees and guards than their white coun-

terparts.

In October both teens were accosted by two out of uniform off-duty police officers in the Eddie Bauer store where the officers demand that one teen show the receipt for a shirt he was wearing that had been purchased the day before. When told that he didn't carry his receipt, the teen was told to take the shirt off and go home and get the receipt.

## Hate in cyberspace

by Greg Williams

Researchers say that racism and anti-Semitism on the Internet is a growing problem. Rabbi Abraham Cooper of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, says Internet access providers, including Netcom—the nation's largest—have some responsibility for this.

Netcom provides Internet access for two such groups that, according to Rabbi Cooper, are the most vehemently racist and anti-Semitic hate groups on the Internet—the National Alliance and Scripta for America (FA).

FA is the free speech-oriented, democratic culture of the Internet versus hate speech in a national climate of racial tensions and domestic anti-government terrorism.

Netcom, denying any responsibility for the hate messages, recently made it publicly clear that as a provider they will not act to censor content of messages posted to the Internet.

The National Alliance, who identifies Martin Luther King as a "Marxist fool," posts its membership application for "any white person (a non-Jewish person of European ancestry)" to SFA.

SFA presents as "facts" on the Internet that the IQ of American "Negroes" is from 15 to 20 points below

those of American whites; that the Negro race is no less than 200,000 years behind the European in skill and brain development and, incredibly, that apartheid in South Africa benefits blacks.

Rick Eaton, a senior researcher with the Wiesenthal Center, who on a daily basis tracks white supremacists, anti-Semitic and Neo-Nazi hate groups on the Internet, blames Internet access as providing tremendous benefit to these groups. He claims such access sets the stage for groups to pose a threat to national and international security.

"The fact is that a whole anti-Semitic and racism community is being created on the Internet. People are joining these hate groups on the Internet all the time," Eaton said.

"They are always trying to figure out how to mainstream their message. Clearly cyberspace is something that is a dream come true for these kinds of groups because it enables them to use the Internet at many levels...and do the rough equivalent of a 'drive-by' hate attack—they can go anonymous."

On the High Holy Days of the Jewish tradition a hate attack called "spamming" took place. The Wiesenthal Center researchers termed this a vile anti-Semitic and racist message called the "Long March" to African American and Jewish Internet newsgroups. Spamming is defined as posting unwanted material to newsgroups that has nothing to do

with the subject of that newsgroup.

The hate messages likens African Americans and Jews to "piranhas" who are told they don't belong in this society. African Americans were denigrated in the messages as mentally inferior, with a statement saying the theory of human equality "has been scientifically demonstrated time and again to be false."

The company discovered the spam was sent "primarily" from Germany and Italy, the latter sent through an illegally obtained computer site, called the National Alliance and other such groups.

"The fact is that a whole anti-Semitic and racism community is being created on the Internet. People are joining these hate groups on the Internet all the time," Eaton said.

"They are always trying to figure out how to mainstream their message. Clearly cyberspace is something that is a dream come true for these kinds of groups because it enables them to use the Internet at many levels...and do the rough equivalent of a 'drive-by' hate attack—they can go anonymous."

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## Remembering Dr. King



Juan Williams (c) author of Eyes on the Prize is greeted by Senator Wynona Lipman and Congressman Donald Payne at the Friday, January 12 celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday held at the Newark Club. The event was sponsored by the Newark YMCA.

Photo by Glen Friesen

# PEOPLE

## Irvington honors black achievers



administered through local YMCA's, links public high school minority students with the honorees, who become volunteer counselors, tutors, friends, confidantes and role models to the youngsters.

Monah is a planning specialist with the Port Authority Department of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey where he has worked since 1985. He's also a member of the Irvington Planning Board and the International Youth Organization and serves as the treasurer of the Family Service Bureau in Newark.

West is principal of Augusta Street School in Irvington. He completed the Harvard University Leadership Institute in August 1995 and the graduate program at the Princeton University Principals' Center in July 1996.

Qualifying as a Black Achiever, candidates must have distinguished themselves in their personal lives, chosen professions and community involvement.

1995 Black Achiever Donald Monah

**IRVINGTON**—Irvington residents Donald Monah and Kevin West, were recently named as the city of Irvington's 1995 Black Achievers, during an awards ceremony held in November at the Meadowlands. The Black Achievers program, which is

## Mayor Bost attends seminar to improve city



IRVINGTON—One of only 19 African Americans from across the nation and the only one representing the northeast, Mayor Sam B. Bost of Irvington participated in the National Conference of Black Mayor's Eighth Annual Leadership Institute for Mayors last month at the Kellogg Executive Education Program, located at Tufts University in Massachusetts. The program provides the mayors with a mechanism to exchange ideas and to interface with experts on municipal administration; help obtain resources to optimally benefit the mayors' communities and improve skills in several areas of government process and management.

Irvington Mayor Sherry Boat

## Placide named information officer



In addition, served as director of the Office of Community Affairs for the New York City Department of Transportation, handling press, policy development, and program implementation.

Placide reports that he intends to have a solid relationship with the Newark community and plans to keep all local press in tuned on all events taking place within the school district.

"Everything that happens in the school system is of particular importance to the students and parents who are the stakeholders," Placide stated. "Because of my experience with the African-American community, I have an increased sensitivity of when people need to know what's going on and receive timely information about their communities."

Placide also stated that his tenure will be the Black Press will be given the respect that it deserves and has earned through its decades of serving the black community.

Placide holds a Bachelor of Arts and Masters in Urban Affairs and Policy Analysis from the New School for Social Research in New York City.

Joseph Placide

**NEWARK**—Joseph C. Placide has been named Acting Public Information Officer for the Newark Public Schools, according to Dr. Beverly L. Hall, State District Superintendent for the Newark Public Schools.

Placide brings a wealth of experience from both the public and non-profit sectors before coming to Newark. He held the post of Director of Development, Public Affairs and Strategic Planning for Concord Family Services, Inc., a large community-based organization in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, New York.

He worked in New York City in the Dinkins administration as the director of the Mayor's Office of African-American and Caribbean Affairs.

Placide was a member of the Newark City Council under former Mayor Sharpe James.

He held the post of Director of Development, Public Affairs and Strategic Planning for Concord Family Services, Inc., a large community-based organization in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, New York.

He worked in New York City in the Dinkins administration as the director of the Mayor's Office of African-American and Caribbean Affairs.

Placide holds a Bachelor of Arts and Masters in Urban Affairs and Policy Analysis from the New School for Social Research in New York City.

**COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

**THRU FEBRUARY 20**  
PLAINFIELD—Literacy volunteers of America Plainfield chapter is hosting a Basic Literacy Tutor Training Workshop at 7 p.m. on January 17 and every Tuesday. Workshops begin at 6:30 p.m. for more info call 908-755-7998.

**THRU MARCH 18**  
NEWARK—Division of Recreation/Cultural Affairs (DORCA) offers winter Ski & Snowboard Camp, ages 6-12 for info and registration call (DORCA) at 201-733-6454.

**THUR APRIL 15**  
NEWARK—Division of Recreation/Cultural Affairs, is holding registrations for 6-Three-On-Three Basketball at all Recreation Centers, for more info, call 201-733-6454.

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17**  
JERSEY CITY—The Jersey City State College Women's center lecture series on self-esteem "Women: Raising your Self-Esteem" at 4:30 p.m.

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 18**  
PLAINFIELD—Plainfield Senior Citizen Center bus trip to Atlantic City leaving the center at 9 a.m. For more info call 908-755-3500.

**PATersonS**—The annual "Black & Gold" scholarship dinner of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity will be held at 7 p.m. at the Brownstone House on W. Broadway. For further info, call 201-962-2994.



NEWARK—Governor Christine Todd Whitman (l) and John Dendridge, (c) president and CEO of United Healthcare System of New Jersey, at the governor's December press conference to introduce Children First, a health insurance program for uninsured children. More than 300 employees and visitors of United attended the press conference where Whitman described Children First, "as a program that will help us bring our children out of the cold and into the healthcare mainstream."

Photo by Citywide Corporate Photography.

## Union County opens Customer Information Center



WESTFIELD—Cutting the ribbon at the grand opening of Union County's Customer Information Center at the County Complex on North Avenue in Westfield, and the start of the Customer Information Line located in the Administration Building in Elizabeth are, from left, Freeholder Elmer Ertl; Freeholder Chairman Linda Di Giovanni; Freeholder vice chairman Ed Forney; Freeholder委员 Alan Augustine; County Manager Ann Baran, and Freeholder Manager Linda Di Giovanni. Citizens can call the Customer Information Line at 908-559-7800 for an on-line service to answer an inquiry. "Our Customer Information Center is designed to make County programs and services easily accessible and under one roof. Westfield was selected as the site because it's centrally located and more accessible to residents in the western end of the county than our Elizabeth offices," said County Manager Ann Baran.

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### POSITIVELY BLACK

## Do you really have a friend?

by Junious Ricardo Stanton

Alice Walker once said, "No person is your friend who demands your silence or denies your right to grow." What kind of friends do you have? Are they nurturing and supportive of your interests and dreams? Do they encourage you to become your greatest self, or do they demand conformity to their narrow world view or lifestyle?

Birds of a feather flock together. What type of people do you associate with? Are they upbeat, progressive souls who have a sense of meaning, purpose or mission in their lives? Or are they content gossiping, being couch potatoes engaging in frivolity, stagnation and/or self-destructive behaviors? Who you associate with and your lifestyle says volumes about you.

Are your friends race conscious? Do they have any idea who we are, what we have been through and what we are up against as African people in this country? Or are they in a stupor induced by the educational system and misinformation pumped out by the mass media? Are they aware of what's going on politically in the world, or are they clueless to the real deal? Do they pretend they aren't as they are in America, or are they working to make things better?

Do you have white friends? Do they like you for your desire to be around them and be like them? Is the friendship strictly on their terms or are you allowed to be a conscious and productive African. Can you talk candidly with them about race issues? Are they willing to entertain your perspective? Do they accept and validate your life experiences? Do they admit America's history of racism and the possibility that they may harbor some bigotry in their hearts? Or are they in total denial about race matters? Do you do everything in your power to avoid the race issue, including acting apolitical and non-African?

Friendship is too important not to be taken seriously! We get therapy, encouragement and a series of soul friends with whom we associate. That is why it is vital we assess the nature of our friendships. It is our responsibility to cultivate the best friendships/relationships possible.

There are two kinds of friendships—toxic and nurturing. Toxic relationships belittle and demean you; they undermine your mental and emotional well-being and block you from being your truest and greatest self. Toxic friendships are those that encourage the status quo; they resist growth and change. Toxic relationships are confirming and restrictive; if you entertain any new ideas you are criticized or ostracized. Toxic relationships are draining; they sap the vitality out of you, leaving you worn and spent emotionally, mentally and physically.

Nurturing friendships are enabling and enabling. They enable us not only to feel good about ourselves and the relationship, but they also are mutually supportive and beneficial. Nurturing relationships encourage us to take risks, to be vulnerable, to be open and honest, to be happy and to succeed when we succeed. They supply solace and encouragement when we fall short of our aspirations and expectations. Nurturing friends offer constructive criticism, suggestions and advice. Nurturing friends push you out of your comfort zone; they are cheerleaders and counselors nudging you onward and upward.

Take a look at the types of friends you have. If they are toxic, drop them like a hot potato. (If your friends read this and you get dropped, it may be a sign you are the toxic one!) Critically examine why he or she is your friend, what each of you brings to the relationship and what you get out of it in proportion to what you put into it. If there is a major imbalance, you may have to re-examine the relationship. Don't be afraid to scrutinize your toxic friend's well-being will depend upon it!

One sure test whether a person is your friend is his/her response when you share your goals and aspirations with them. If they put you down verbally, or if the relationship disintegrates, he/she was not really your friend in the first place. The best friend you can have next to the Creator is yourself.

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# NATION

## Supreme Court may limit black representation in Congress

by Eric Kearney

### National News at a glance

#### BLACK CONGRESSIONAL SEAT LOST IN LOUISIANA

A federal court has redrawn Louisiana's congressional boundary lines, eliminating Rep. Cleo Fields' seat in the House because it was drawn with an unconstitutional emphasis on race. The new plan imposed by a three-judge panel gives the state six mostly white and one mostly black district, which is based in New Orleans. Fields' district had cut a 250-mile swath from northwest Louisiana to Baton Rouge, in a pattern described by the judges as an inbloc with an "aimless and tortuous path." Louisiana's next congressional election must be held under the new map.

The map of Field's congressional district was drawn to make wide the number seats lost by blacks due to "unconstitutional boundary" drawings. Cynthia McKinney's and Stanford Bishop's districts in Georgia were recently eliminated.

—NEW ORLEANS, LA.

#### NEW YORK CITY SHOULD ESTABLISH PANELS FOR RACIAL DIVERSITY

New York City must establish procedures to keep racial tensions from turning to violence, as was the case in a recent fire in Harlem that killed seven people, says the New York Beacon reporter. "This horrific incident has once again focused the attention on the serious racial and religious tensions that divide us," the Beacon quotes New York Civil Liberties Union Director Norman Siegel. Seven employees of the Harlem clothing store Freddy's Fashion Mart died in a fire set by a black man, Roland J. Smith, Jr., who shot and wounded four people before killing himself. It has been classified as a "bias crime" because of race-based threats and statements made earlier by participants in an organized boycott of the store. Siegel said rather than officials pursuing legal action against the protesters, they should devise new methods for dealing with racially explosive situations.—NEW YORK

#### BLACK PRESS LEADERS ELECTED TO POLITICAL OFFICES

Publishers of black-oriented newspapers have traditionally been leaders in the struggle for civil rights and media voice. Now, in recent elections in Southern cities three African-American publishers have been elected as political leaders. Melony Williams, publisher of the Macon Courier and past first vice president of the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), was recently sworn in as a member of the 15-member Macon (GA) County Council. Williams captured 69 percent of votes cast in the election and his victory gave the county its first black elected councilman. Also, in Daytona Beach, FL, Charles Cherry, publisher of the Daytona Times and Florida Couriers newspaper, was elected to the Daytona Beach City Commission. Cherry had been a major critic of local government and had sought a commission seat in four other election tries. Cherry has owned, or managed his own real estate firm, radio station and weekly newspaper since moving to the Daytona Beach area in 1982. Floyd Adams, publisher of the Savannah Herald, was recently elected mayor of Savannah, GA.

—WASHINGTON, DC.

#### OFIELD DUKES GETS GIBSON AWARD

Ofield Dukes, a Washington, DC-based public relations expert recently received the D. Parke Gibson Pioneer Award from the National Multi-Cultural Affairs Committee (NMAC) of the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA). NMAC annually presents the Pioneer Award for distinguished personal achievement and outstanding contributions to the profession by a minority who has over 15 years of public relations experience. Dukes was chosen for his outstanding career and dedication to the profession, teaching hundreds of students at the college level. In 1975, Dukes, who has worked with sev-

eral districts was unconstitutional drawn because it attempted to maximize the number of African Americans in the district in an attempt to increase the chances that an African American would be elected. Effectively, the Supreme Court required strict scrutiny—the highest level of judicial review under the Constitution—in those cases where race was the "predominant factor," motivating the legislature in drawing or re-drawing a district. In order for a redistricting plan to survive it must be narrowly drawn to achieve a compelling government interest.

Effectively, the choice for the African-American community is this: will they continue to live in either a small pond or a small pond in a big pond? With that question, the Supreme Court, Department of Justice and state legislatures, fail to consider, in their dizzying frenzy to interelectrize, is that the African-American community does not care about the size or shape of the pond (or district), but whether we are given an opportunity to fair representation.

The coup of politics, redistricting, and African-American representation and voting rights began with the 1995 Georgia case of Miller v. Johnson. In that case, the Supreme Court held that a Georgia congres-

sional district was unconstitutional drawn because it attempted to maximize the number of African Americans in the district in an attempt to increase the chances that an African American would be elected. Effectively, the Supreme Court required strict scrutiny—the highest level of judicial review under the Constitution—in those cases where race was the "predominant factor," motivating the legislature in drawing or re-drawing a district. In order for a redistricting plan to survive it must be narrowly drawn to achieve a compelling government interest.

The Supreme Court made this pronouncement in light of attempts by Southern states to comply with the Voting Rights Act and to provide an African-American presence in Congress. Instead of supressing those worthy goals, the Supreme Court made it tougher for them to be achieved.

In the Texas case, Bush v. Vera and the North Carolina case, Shaw v. Hunt, provide the Supreme Court with the chance to modify and clarify its decision in the Georgia case, or it could make the requirements more severe.

The states of Texas and North Carolina attempted to comply with the Voting Rights Act and the De-

partment of Justice by creating what are called "majority-minority districts." These districts are drawn by the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, argues, to meet the demands of the Voting Rights Act, protect incumbents, and maintain partisanship in Texas elections.

In the North Carolina case there is a challenge to the two majority African-American districts. One of the districts is a rural district with a 53.4 percent African-American voting population. The other district is urban with a 53.3 percent African-American voting population. In defending the districts, the state of North Carolina argues that the districts satisfy the "symbolic and substantive" "one-black" policy. That is, the Department of Justice requires these states to maximize the number of minority districts.

The facts of the Texas and North Carolina cases are similar. In the Texas case, six white Republicans challenged two majority African-American and one majority Hispanic districts. The trial court held, in holding the districts unconstitutional, that the three districts were not narrowly drawn. The

NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, however, argues that the African-American and Hispanic communities have the chance to elect representatives that come from our

communities. The Supreme Court should allow the growth in minority representation in Congress to continue. Without the creation of these districts and the enforcement of the law by the Department of Justice, it is likely that African-American representation in Congress will be severely limited. These cases provide the Supreme Court with the chance to show that the Constitution truly protects the minority from the tyranny of the majority.

Eric H. Kearney is a Cincinnati attorney. He is publisher of News, Information & Pictures Magazine.

#### Walls

*(Continued from page 1)*  
and help out the local economy." He added, "her veto points up how she fails to live up to her New Jersey roots."

#### THE FIZZLING OF THE REVOLUTION

WASHINGTON DC—News stories on the anniversary of the Republic takeover of Congress this week noted that, after all the ballyhoo about the Contract With America, only two of the Contract's items had actually been enacted.

#### GOOD NEIGHBOR NEWS

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# AS I SEE IT

## EDITORIAL

### The buck stops here, but will learning start?

In her "State of the State" address, Governor Christie Whitman finally took a stand on the hand-in-hand problem of school funding and poor educational performance that has plagued New Jerseyans for over 20 years, claiming it to be the state's number one problem. Funny how it took her two years in office and who knows how many years as a resident of the state to realize how bad things really are.

Most of what she had to say was general and broad and really didn't tell how she truly planned to improve the plight of our children's educational system. She did the same thing the spending. In fact the overall cutting of spending seemed to be her key focus in the improvement for the education of the young of today and the future.

But how can an across-the-board spending cut truly benefit the learning process? The structure of many urban school systems are unfortunately at lower standards than the more affluent ones already. Adding the computers and training teachers to carry out her new educational plan for all schools, both rich and poor, that aren't already properly equipped will take money from the spending up. Where exactly will she cut the money from?

Until Gov. Whitman can come up with a more detailed plan and present it in a way that can be understood, the educational system and its spending dilemma are still "going to hell in a handbasket," with no hope in sight. Until then we must marshal the strength to ensure that the state and school districts meet their responsibilities preparing them to compete not only nationally but globally. Now that Governor Whitman has given her State of the State address, perhaps now she can provide some real solutions to New Jersey's greatest challenge.

By Connie Woodruff

It's that time of year again when practically everybody I know plans to remember the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Since January 15 became a national holiday it has been of particular interest to politicians of all colors, genders and parties to show how ecumenical they are in honoring great Americans without regard to skin color.

I don't know what I resent most: the commercial spin put on the holiday, the exploitation of his memory, or the callous manner in which any of us can be "brought" float amid in a sea of ignorance.

Certainly Dr. King would not be happy with the world today. He made the supreme sacrifice—giving up his life—for the peace and equality of all people and abroad that has not been achieved even as we stand on the threshold of the 21st century.

He would applaud the progress African Americans have made in politics. But he would be sadly disappointed in the way black family

life is disintegrating.

MLK was real big on families, the church, the extended-parent family, the family church, the family of man.

He would frown on black politicians who have not found a way to deal with poverty and lack of opportunity for people of color.

He would disapprove of politicians who feather their own nests on the backs of the people who put them in office. And he would be appalled at the state of urban America that is but surely going down the drain.

The record shows that poverty in America was cut in half during the War on Poverty years and began a steady decline throughout the 11 years of Reagan-Bush.

President Clinton may have had the best intentions to reverse the downward spiral of cities where most black people live. But with a Congress that is hardy what we think of as cooperative, it's not easy.

In the final days of the Bush administration, the poor and minority city-dwellers were even overlooked during the census count. That will deny cities of hundreds of millions to purport to be our leaders.

That is why I got so angry at black politicians who use this arena to lift themselves out of poverty while their undereducated, unemployed, unhappy "brothers and sisters" struggle to survive by whatever means necessary.

Celebrating the King memory is fitting and proper homage for one man who made a difference. The speech about his courage and vision is great. Dedicating streets, schools, housing projects and government buildings to his memory must be proud.

But more than these superficial, materialistic testaments to his memory, we need to consider programs that call for action. Even Dr. King would say he did not come to his triumphs by faith alone. He was a thinker who had some long range plans; a trait seldom found in those who purport to be our leaders.

"All in the family" is the name of the game of New Jersey's Payne family.

When Craig Stanley was sworn in as an Essex County Assemblyman, Congressman Donald Payne showed up for the Trenton ceremonies. Stanley is the congressman's nephew and Donald worked hard to help get the 30-something legislator elected.

It came as a surprise to many to learn that Craig's chief of staff will

be another uncle, Bill Payne who is never far from his congressman brother's side.

Does this mean Bill Payne will put aside his (uncompleted) plans to run for mayor of Newark in 1998? Or will he help his friend a congressman and an assemblyman in his second term try for the office?

✓✓✓

Too soon to reveal names—especially when the guys are shy—but at least two men are seriously considering challenging congressmen in next year's Democratic primary.

✓✓✓

The current Essex County Board of Freeholders has been called many names by taxpayers who have followed closely the board's antics for a half dozen or so years.

But last week they were praised for re-electing board president Joe DiVincenzo for a second term as their leader.

DiVincenzo deserves another term. In one year he did more than his two presidential successors. He showed courage in reproducing a staff of 80 aides to 45, reducing overtime by rescheduling meetings to accommodate voters and encourage greater participation.

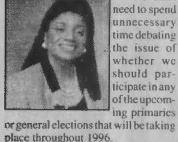
He slated Freeholder meetings in odd-numbered months and wiped out so-called "extraordinary grants" that funded local programs. It was common knowledge that groups with the right political connections or those considered "politically correct" benefited most from the grant program (funded by taxpayer dollars). It's refreshing to see a Mr. Do Right win for a change.

## What can save us from a second slavery?

Part 1 of a series

"...The power of the ballot we need in sheer self defense—else what shall save us from a second slavery?" —W.E.B. DuBois

by Sharon Khajadish Vincent



We don't need to spend unnecessary time debating the issue of whether we should participate in any of the upcoming primaries or general elections that will be taking place throughout 1996.

Whatever our political viewpoints or party affiliations are—it doesn't really matter.

What does matter most is that we vote and encourage other people to exercise their franchise right, as well as remind them of the sacrifices that it took to obtain it. If for no other reason than to pay tribute to those brave men, women and children who marched, fought and put their lives on the line—and many who lost their lives—in order to work to bring out record numbers of people to the polls in 1996.

Those individuals and groups who claim that it doesn't really matter if people vote or not, and believe that we are powerless to make changes, negate historical facts. In addition, they offer no viable and realistic alternatives to not voting beyond stale and useless rhetoric that breed and foster the feelings of hopelessness, powerlessness and despair in our communities.

History has demonstrated time and again, that in indeed matters if people participate in the democratic process, and it does make a difference whom the people elect to represent them. Sometimes, the choices have been bad ones, and there have been

terrible consequences to pay as a result of electing individuals to office who turned to be poor representatives and leaders.

But, whether the choices have been good ones or bad ones, the right to be able to make those choices must be protected and never taken for granted.

In 1996, we must purge ourselves of the indifference and apathy plaguing our communities, and fight back against this latest retrograde trend that has been taking place all across America. It eerily resembles the back-wards march took place in the post-Reconstruction period of the part of the nineteenth century. After the abolishment of slavery in 1865 with the passage of the 13th amendment, from 1867-1877, there was a period often years of tremendous change and progress ushered in, known as the period of Black Reconstruction.

The history books have generally omitted, left out entirely or distorted the Black Reconstruction period. Some of the tremendous gains for African Americans were made in the political and business fields—which is probably why white historians have ignored and lied about this important time in American history.

The Post-Reconstruction period saw all of the gains and progress made from 1867-1877, systematically eroded and rolled back. Gains made in the areas of voting rights, political representation, economic empowerment, social reform etc., were systematically wiped out, repealed and eliminated, followed by a new reign of terror and the era of Jim Crow.

The similarities between the regression that is currently taking place in the 1996 American political landscape,

and efforts to turn back and eliminate gains made during the activist years of the late 1950's, 1960's and 70's are alarming and familiar. The increase in attacks and segregation of the poor, children, African Americans and other oppressed nationalities, all mirror past events.

Newt Gingrich clones of 1996, mirror the Andrew Johnson clones of 1865, and the "Buff" Connor clones of 1950. Truly, we can learn to study our history, so we can learn from it, draw valuable lessons, and hopefully, help prevent repeating it.

Throughout 1996, in a series of articles and commentaries, the focus will be on various historical, social issues and events that are important and of interest to our communities both locally and nationally.

The series: "Freedom 1996: Recommitment & Reaffirmation" will review historical events that have relevance to today's issues and topics; report on current events; and provide commentary and analysis. Readers will be encouraged to provide feedback and respond to questions, surveys, and issues raised. There are issues or topics that you would like to see covered on in this series, your suggestions are encouraged and appreciated.

Four years before the start of the next millennium, 1996 is a crucial year. The positive aftermath of the historic Million Man March continues to reverberate in our communities. The need for continued atomization, reflection, reaffirmation and recommitment is vital to our progress. Key to any strategy, has to be the use of the "power of the ballot."

We all have to be responsible for asking and posing the questions to the doctored and cynics that W.E.B. DuBois

raised in his historic book, *The Souls of Black Folk*, if not the use of the vote, then what else? "...shall we save us from a second slavery?"

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It came as a surprise to many to learn that Craig's chief of staff will

## Miss Christie's Driving...



On the road again...

If you haven't got it, you can't show it.  
If you have got it, you can't hide it.

—Zora Neale Hurston

### THE PASTORS' WORD

By Revs. Reginald T. Jackson & Michael Sykes

No one who is sensitive and compassionate cannot help but be moved by the pain and anguish of East Orange city employees who have been laid off or demoted. For them and their families this year will be dimmed

## CITY NEWS

### Publisher

Henry C. Johnson Ph.D.

### Managing Editor

Lorraine Davis Hickman

### Associate Editor

Sandra Wright

### Assistant Editor

Charles Chrystol

### Director of Advertising Sales

Lorraine Davis Hickman

### Contributing Writers

Connie Woodruff, Rev. Reginald

Jackson, Rev. Michael Sykes

Akisa Muhammad, Julian Robinson,

Michael Burton, Kelly Howard

### Composition & Layout

Sandra Wright Steiner Green

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while others, including the elected leadership of the city take none. No leaders should ask their followers to do what they are not willing to do. City employees put the administration in a difficult situation by refusing to accept alternatives in the first place.

Therefore we again recommend that every city employee be asked to take an 8 percent pay cut, beginning with the mayor, administration and council. This is much fairer and allows every employee to share in addressing this problem.

3) We recommend that those employees who have been demoted be placed back in their previous positions at their previous salaries and previous job titles.

4) We recommend that serious consideration be given to the report of the East Orange Budget Advisory Committee. All of their recommendations cannot be accepted, but likewise all of them should not be rejected.

Many of them have merit. It makes no sense to appoint a committee and arbitrarily dismiss their recommendations. We know the council has the final word but when the government seeks no input from the general public it leads to cynicism and turmoil.

5) We recommend that the mayor and council hire an outside firm with no connections to anyone in city government, and may be recommended by the League of Municipalities to review East Orange structure, operations and finances, and recommend ways to provide better services, reduce cost and make government more efficient.

This is a difficult time for East Orange. It is our hope, in fact our prayer that the mayor and council will act responsibly in this crisis. For the good of the city, leave your eggs at home, your personal animosities out of City Hall and work together on the people's behalf. Each of you were elected to lead and at no more critical time does the city need leadership than now.

One final recommendation: We recommend that Council President Scialfa and his colleagues together walk up the steps and meet it with the mayor and his staff in that beautiful conference room and correct the wrong done to those 70 or 80 employees and then begin to work on resolving this crisis.

We believe one day next week would be good. It would give the city and its citizens some reason to hope that the new year will be better. God's blessings be with each of you.

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# YOUTH BEAT

## KID CALENDAR

SATURDAY, JANUARY 20  
GRANBERRY—Indoor training in basketball, soccer, and tennis for children ages 7 to 12 at Union County College. Training sessions begin at 10:15 a.m. and will run until February 10. For more info call 908-709-7600.

NEW YORK, NY—"How Do I Be A People?" mime and mask performance by El Teatro Campesino at 145 Avenue of the Americas. For ticket info call 212-647-0202. Showtime is 3 p.m.

JANUARY 20 & 21  
SAVERVILLE—The popular children's story "Aladdin and His Magic Lamp" will be presented at the Club Bené Children's Theatre. Showtime will be at 8 p.m. and 9 p.m. For more info call 908-727-3000.

JANUARY 20 & 21  
NORTH BRANCH—"The Secret of the Cardboard Rocket" at Raritan Valley Community College. Travel with two adventurous youngsters in their cardboard rocket as they explore the sun and play with the stars. Showtime is 1:30 and 3 p.m. For more info call 908-231-8605.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 20  
NEWARK—Registration for Junior Museum Winter/Spring Weekday Preschool, After-school and Home-school '96 workshops in the South Wing Education Center of the Newark Library from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more info call 201-596-8638.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21  
NEWARK—Registration continues for Junior Museum Winter/Spring Weekday Preschool, After-school and Home-school '96 workshops in the South Wing Education Center of the Newark Library from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more info call 201-596-8638.

Rutgers offers enrichment program for parents and children

NEW BRUNSWICK—A Saturday enrichment program for gifted children and their parents begins on Saturday, February 17 at Rutgers.

Small groups of children ages 4 through kindergarten will take part in activities that encourage independence and creative thinking during the 10-week program, to be held in the Psychology Building on Rutgers' Busch campus in Piscataway. Sessions will be conducted by doctoral students in school psychology at Rutgers' Graduate School of Applied and Professional Psychology.

Tuition for the program is \$275. Homework assignment is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis. A sliding fee scale is available. Children of full-time Rutgers students may attend free of charge. Additional information is available by calling 908-445-6114 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays.

## Spring scholarship tryouts

NEWARK—Fred Daniels, director of the Newark School of the Garden State Ballet, will be holding Scholarship tryouts for boys and girls ages 7 to 12 years. Tryouts will be held on January 20th and January 27th. Children who are selected will enter a three-week Introductory Program offering free instruction in ballet and jazz.

The Introductory Program is open to children who have not had any previous training. Annually, 150 youngsters participate in the Introductory Programs, held in the Fall, Spring, and Summer.

At the conclusion of the Introductory Program, students who demonstrate interest and ability will be eligible to continue their training under partial or full scholarship assistance.

The school's scholarship program is supported by grants from the Geraldine R. Dodge and Victoria Foundations as well as contributions from major corporations.

The non-profit school established in Newark since 1951, enjoys a national reputation for a tradition of excellence in training, exemplified by the graduates who have pursued successful professional careers in major dance companies.

The school also offers classes for youngsters starting at age 4 years. Class schedules are available on request.

For complete information as to the time of the scholarship tryouts, applicants may contact the Newark School of the Garden State Ballet at 45 Academy Street, 623-1033.

## Jan Ernst Matzeliger: the king of shoe-making

1852-1889



centers—in the nation he could barely speak a word of English. No one knew him; he was poor and friendless. However, when he died thirteen years later his name was known not only in Massachusetts, but wherever inventors gathered.

Matzeliger laid the foundation of the shoe industry in the United States and the shoe capital of the world.

Before Matzeliger, hundreds of inventors had labored and thousands of dollars had been spent in an effort to make a complete shoe by machine. The task of attaching the leather uppers to the sole was done by a costly and tedious manual process that required highly skilled workers.

"I have a secret," said Matzeliger. Handlusters were highly skilled and well paid, but their work was slow and inefficient.

Matzeliger heard of the problem and invented the "shoe-lasting" machine which automatically stitched the leather of the shoe to the sole. He worked for 10 years with no encouragement and a lot of levers from the public when his project was revealed.

In 1882, after feeling that he had perfected his machine, Matzeliger applied for a patent and sent his drawings to Washington.

Patent reviewers could not understand them because they were extremely complicated. A man was sent to Lynn to review the model in order to understand it.

On March 20, 1883, patent #274,207 was granted to Jan E. Matzeliger. Six years later he died of tuberculosis.

*Reprinted from Great Negroes Past and Present*

## Learning is key to black survival

by Melody Micre Stewart

WASHINGTON, DC—An old African American truism states, "If you want to hide something from black people, put it between the covers of a book."

This is a particularly sad statement to acknowledge, considering that African people were the originators of the great literary works that are the first people to live on the earth. What has been hidden from us is a wealth of knowledge which, if studied, will empower us individually and collectively.

The power of knowledge must not be taken lightly. Beginning with the era of enslavement, reading and writing were legally forbidden fruits not to be eaten by African Americans.

The hope of an entire people was based on acquiring an education which would liberate African Americans, enabling them to handle their affairs all manner of human endeavor, from politics to economics to social, educational and moral uplift.

The need for education was underscored by a number of our most influential leaders, including Frederick Douglass, Carter G. Woodson, Booker T. Washington and Mary Bethune.

W.E.B. DuBois, the great scholar

and intellectual, wrote extensively about the ultimate need for an educated class of black people. In one of his autobiographies, "Dusk of Dawn," he wrote: "I believed in the higher education of a Talented Tenth who, through their knowledge of modern culture, could guide the African-American into a higher civilization."

I knew that without this, African Americans would have to accept white leadership, and that such leadership could not always be trusted to guide [African Americans] into self-actualization and to its highest cultural possibilities."

Education, as explained to us by African American scholars, is not simply for one's own benefit. It was, and still is, a tool for our collective empowerment. The challenge to learn our history, apply the lessons and teach others begins with each one of us whenever we happen to be.

"We know that the mind of our ancestors for the mind is trained through knowledge. Behold their words endure in books. Open and read them and follow their wise counsel." The sooner the better.

*Melody Micre Stewart's column, reprinted here, is a regular feature of The Charlotte (N.C.) Post.*

## ATTENTION ASTHMA PATIENTS

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR A RESEARCH STUDY OF AN INVESTIGATIONAL ORAL TABLET FOR THE TREATMENT OF ASTHMA

YOU MUST BE AGE 12 OR OLDER AND HAVE NOT SMOKED IN THE PAST 6 MONTHS

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Departments of Medicine and Pediatrics New Jersey Medical School

For further information and eligibility requirements

Qualified participants will receive up to \$1000 at the completion of the study

## School fairs stimulate science interests

PLAINFIELD—Are you a science buff, craving for action on anything related to science? Well the Plainfield Public School district has scheduled its annual Science Fairs and Invention Conventions to be held in the elementary and middle schools from January 8 through February 13.

Students from Kindergarten through grade eight will participate in the annual event. Professional employees from AT&T, Bellcore and

the Elizabethtown Water Company have volunteered to serve as judges.

First, second and third place prizes are awarded at each grade level at each school. First place winners will go on to participate in the 9th Annual Districtwide Science Fair at Plainfield High School along with the high school's science projects.

The districtwide fair will be on February 23 from 9 to 9 p.m. in the high school gym and cafeteria.

## Girl Scouts develop business skills while selling cookies

MONTCLAIR—Members of the Girl Scout Council of greater Essex County, will be developing and practicing marketing skills during their annual Girl Scout Cookie Sale taking place now through March 25.

While having fun selling their cookies, the young ladies will practice the art of presentation, accounting, bookkeeping, sales, public relations and goal-setting.

## Discover how math can be a blast

WYNNEWOOD, PA—Now brought to you by a talented team including filmmaker, Morgan Freeman who is responsible for numerous projects for the Children's Television Workshop's Sesame Street and Square One, comes a new video for children of all ages interested in becoming a fraction expert and having a great time along the way!

The three-tape video collection, *Fractions And Some Cool Distractions*, has been produced with the conviction that it is high time that mathe-

matics textbooks should be brought into the television age. The lessons taught in the animated sections are expanded upon by the live instruction and is done by actor Alex Corcoran.

The mathematics is done by Dr. Alfred O. Oakley, former chairman of Mathematics Department of Haverford College, a distinguished Math Educator, Dr. Bruce Rind, Professor of Psychology at Miami University and director of this course; and producer Alicia M. Boyd.

Each lesson is reinforced by prac-

tice problems that students may solve for themselves. After attempting the problems, students may check their work against the explanation of the correct way to solve the problem.

It is the goal and hope of the authors, both artistic and mathematical, that *Fractions And Some Cool Distractions* will not only entertain but teach.

For additional information call 800-383-8811, ext. 182. The collection is sold for \$59.95.

## Matching scholarships for 1996

WAYNE—William Peterson College in Wayne will match scholarships awarded by the state of New Jersey to high-achieving high school seniors who plan to begin pursuing college studies in the fall of 1996.

The college will match, dollar-for-dollar, the \$1,000 Edward J. Bloustein Distinguished Scholarship

and the \$500 Garden State Scholarship, for up to four years, pending enrollment at the college. The two state scholarships may be used toward tuition, room, board and fees at any approved New Jersey institution of higher education, including community colleges, colleges and universities.

The matching WPC awards, which are not based on need, may be used in conjunction with other WPC scholarships to cover tuition, room, board and fees.

Students interested in additional information on the scholarships should call WPC's Office of Admissions at 201-595-2125.

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# LIFESTYLES

## 'Man of the Year'

*Continued from page 1*

tering, some believe the 62-year-old Jesus-loving Muslim has eclipsed even the status of Martin Luther King at his apex.

Minister Farrakhan was born Louis Eugene Walkoff in the borough of the Bronx, New York in 1933. He was the youngest of two sons of Mae Clark, a deeply religious and strong willed woman who immigrated to America from Barbados, West Indies in the early 1920s.

His father, a schoolteacher and Baptist preacher, left the family shortly after Farrakhan's birth, and his mother raised the family through employment as a domestic worker.

Farrakhan grew up in the Roxbury section of Boston, Massachusetts, just south and west of its downtown section. He graduated from Boston English High School, where he was a champion sprinter, played the violin and performed drama. As a young man, he was also a choirboy in the St. Cyprian Episcopal Church.

Farrakhan earned a track scholarship from Winston-Salem Teachers College, spending two years there. He later used his Caribbean musical background to earn a living in his community as a piano-playing calypso and conga singer.

He was recruited into the Nation of Islam by Malcolm X in 1955. Farrakhan became Malcolm X's assistant in Boston and later minister at that Mosque when Malcolm moved to Harlem.

During that period, he first changed his name to Louis X, and then to Louis Abdul Farrakhan. He eventually followed Malcolm X to the Harlem Mosque and replaced him there as his minister, as well, after Malcolm left the Nation of Islam in 1964.

From his platform in the Harlem

Mosque, Farrakhan started to perform as chief spokesman of Nation of Islam leader, Elijah Muhammad. Under the tutelage of Muhammad, Malcolm X grew to national prominence, as would three others in later years: Silvia Muhammad, Yahweh Ben Yahweh and Farrakhan.

When Muhammad died in 1975, his son, Wallace, began opening up the Nation of Islam to all Muslims regardless of race, Farrakhan balked shortly thereafter, and, in his quest to "keep the teachings of Elijah Muhammad alive," he began publishing the *Front Call*, a similar version of his teacher's newspaper Muhammad Speaks.

In the late 1970s and early 1980s, Farrakhan struggled to rebuild the original version of the Nation of Islam after divisions in its philosophy and finances.

Like his direct tutor, Elijah Muhammad, Farrakhan is devoted to the teachings of Marcus Garvey, the Jamaican black nationalist who galvanized the American Black community in the early 1920s.

Fundamentally, tens of millions of African Americans come from Garvey and his United Negro Improvement Association (UNIA), which taught blacks should be proud of their color and heritage while pursuing economic self-sufficiency and self-help.

Nation of Islam business interests include Clean 'n Fresh grooming products, the newly opened Salaam Restaurant complex in Chicago, security firms that guard government-owned public housing projects nationwide as well as private sector firms such as Federal Express. The Nation of Islam is currently building a printing plant in the *Front Call* and other publications.

## Rev. Van Pelt returns to Plainfield

by Charles Chrystal



PLAINFIELD — The Rev.

Rev. Alan Van Pelt, formerly of Plainfield began his ministry at Bethel Presbyterian Church, 300 E. 5th Street, Plainfield at a worship service on Sunday January 14, 1996.

The Rev. Van Pelt, a man in his home town was focused on "Applying the Word," but it seems more like the father of three is going to be applying to his new ministry the participation of youth and the progressive techniques of what he calls "megachurches."

Rev. Van Pelt told of a church in Nanuet, NY that started in the living room of someone's house and now includes 5000 worshippers. "The church is at a point of change," the pastor said, "and has a lot to learn from the Pentecostal megachurches," the rev. noted.

Van Pelt's ministry will consist of radio, publicity and cooperation with other churches to make us more dynamic. We have a youth fellowship but I want to expand the program—the same with the outreach program. Our goal

kitchen could be used as a means to educate."

One thing that concerned Rev. Van Pelt was, "The Church used to be an agent to reform society. Now society dictates what the church can do—this needs to be changed." The pastor doesn't anticipate any obstacles from the elders or the congregation. "They just need to be convinced and I've got lots of experience doing exactly that."

The pastor also mentioned that there was a small number of black Presbyterian ministers in this country. "We have to take four years of college and three years of seminary and the older preachers think that it's just too much. What they don't understand is that our education is incomplete because it excludes psychology so that we will be able to administer properly to our worshippers. That is what makes the Baptist ministry so appealing. They think that all that is necessary is to receive the traditional calling and then all they have to do is get themselves a Bible."

Rev. Van Pelt and his wife Delores with their three children; Christon, Gregory and Jennifer have relocated to Plainfield from Mississippi. He is the son of Harold and Alice Van Pelt who are the proprietors of an insurance agency in Plainfield.

## BOOK REVIEW

## Help has arrived

*The Little Black Book*, by Carol Taylor, R.N.

by Kelly Howard

English correctly.

Protection on the street: Rule #13—On subway trains, in stations, ride near the conductor. Stand in "safe" waiting areas or near the token booth.

And dealing with police officers: Rule #7—When approached by police do not take this time to try to prove your manhood.

In addition to the powerful bombs that Taylor drops, *The Little Black Book* is pocket size and easy to carry. An individual can pass out their personal Little Black Book out while waiting for the bus, riding in the car, between classes, or anytime it's necessary to raise your consciousness.

As a mother and healer, Carol Taylor provides love and concern for the plight of her son, for many African American men and boys, and their future. The Little Black Book should become required reading for every African American man, woman and child and Carol Taylor should be commended for her efforts.

To order a copy of *The Little Black Book*, send \$2.00, plus one .32 cent stamped self-addressed business envelope to Carol Taylor, 1149 Ralph Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11216.

Education: Rule #2—Learn to read, write and type and to speak

## Free eye exams offered for low income workers

TRENTON—Low-income workers and their families without health insurance can get free eye exams through a program called VISIONUSA.

As part of a nationwide program, optometrists in New Jersey who are members of the New Jersey Optometric Association are donating their services

to provide comprehensive eye exams in their offices in March.

To qualify for the free eye care, persons must have a job or live in a household where there is one working member; have no health insurance of any kind; have income below an established level based on household size;

and have had no eye examination within two years.

Application forms are available by writing to VISION USA, 243 N. Lindbergh Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63141.

Completed forms must be postmarked by January 25. For more information call 1-800-766-4466.

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RATE	APR	MAXIMUM LOAN	MONTHLY P&I PER \$1,000	CAPS
6.500%	7.410%	\$500,000	\$6.33	2% annual & 5% lifetime

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RATE	APR	MAXIMUM LOAN	MONTHLY P&I PER \$1,000	CAPS
5.750%	7.540%	\$500,000	\$5.84	2% annual & 5% lifetime

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**908-754-3400**  
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

## CLASSIFIEDS

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24 hrs.

### LEGAL NOTICE

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Housing Authority of the City of East Orange, New Jersey, is soliciting proposals from qualified firms to provide services for the administration of the Section 8 Program for the fiscal year ending December 31, 1995. The audit is required to commence on April 1, 1996, and to be completed by June 1, 1996.

The program to be audited include:

1. Generalized low rent housing - 456 units
2. Section 8 Housing Assistance - 475 certificates
3. 161 vouchers

3. Modernization Program, CMAP 91-92

4. CDP 701-93 and 702-94

5. Drug Elimination Program

Interested firms may obtain application requirements form of proposal and form of Agreement from the Office of the Authority, located at 161 Haledon Street, East Orange, New Jersey 07017. Proposals must be received no later than 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

All proposals shall be submitted to the Office of the Authority no later than 4:00 p.m., Friday, February 6, 1996.

It is recommended that interested firms contact Ms. Carol Basile, Director of Accounts, at (201) 678-0200 for the purpose of familiarizing themselves with the financial books and records of this Authority.

HARRY E. BICKFORD  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1/19/96

### LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT - RFP ANNOUNCEMENT

The New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Family and Community Services (DFCS), Notice of Availability for Contracting with the State of New Jersey.

Father Reunification services program in the Southern Region. The contractor will be located Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Gloucester, Ocean, and Salem Counties.

Teleguidance that the Division of Youth and Family Services is soliciting proposals from public or private agencies, for-profit or non-profit, for the development of a family reunification program in the six BLS families in the Southern Region on an annual basis.

Notice of this will be published on or about January 6, 1996 in the New Jersey Register. Copies of the RFP can be obtained from the following address:

William Michner, Administrative Analyst I

Division of Family and Community Services  
PO Box 594  
322 N. White Horse Pike

Hamilton, NJ 08520  
(609) 567-0700

Copies of the RFP can also be obtained at the Bidders Conference located below:

DATE: February 6, 1996  
TIME: 10 a.m.  
PLACE: Division of Youth and Family Services, Southern Regional Office  
PO Box 594  
322 N. White Horse Pike  
Hamilton, NJ 08520

NOTE! Announcements concerning the closing or delaying opening of State offices are broadcast on radio stations throughout the State.

1/17/96

FEES: \$8.00

INVITATION FOR BID

The HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF ELIZABETH (hereinafter called the Authority) will receive sealed bids for:

### PARTING OF OCCUPIED AND VACANT APARTMENTS

The BID OPENING will be held at 10:00 a.m. (onetime) on Tuesday January 23, 1996 in the Conference room of the Housing Authority of the City of Elizabeth, located at 685 Maple Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07202.

No late bids will be accepted.

Bidding documents, including plans and specifications, may be obtained from the **HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF ELIZABETH**, Administration Building, A Unit, a non-refundable payment of \$20.00 will be required to pick up the plans and specifications.

A PRE-BID CONFERENCE will be held at 10:00 a.m. (onetime) on Friday January 12, 1996 in the Conference Room of the Administration Building, located at 685 Maple Avenue, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07202.

The **HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF ELIZABETH** reserves the right to accept or reject any bid and to waive all tenders and waive all informality in bidding.

Bids will be awarded only to the corporation or entity, under whose name qualifications, pre-qualifications, financial statement, and other documentation are submitted. Corporate affiliates, subsidiary or parent corporation or related entities are not automatically qualified.

Firms choosing to submit their bids via the "United States" are required to file a mail delivery prior to issuance of the bid. All correspondence and information given to us for weeks and holidays.

This Authority will only accept original and originally executed bidding documents (including but not limited to the following): (1) a signed copy of the Statement of Ownership, Statement of Compliance, Business Tax (for the year 1995), Business Tax Certificate, and New Jersey Motor Vehicle Registration.

Photocopies and/or copies of such documents will not be accepted in lieu of originals.

All bidders will be required to submit a certificate or certificates to the Authority for the person(s) listed on the bid or a bid for him or her. A bid is invalid if the individual(s) named on the bid or certificate is not qualified to do business in the State of New Jersey.

Each bid, consist of Surety, Performance and Payment Bonds, and other documents required by the State of New Jersey to be included in the bid. The bid must be accompanied by a check for \$100.00.

All bids and security money enclosed in a properly sealed envelope bearing on the outside the name of the bidder and the title of the bid contained therein.

The provisions of Affirmative Action Program (AAP) and Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) are incorporated herein. Proposers shall be required to furnish the information to be obtained with the bid documents.

All sealed bids must be submitted to: **THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF ELIZABETH**, 685 Maple Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ 07202, no later than 10:00 a.m. (onetime) on Tuesday January 23, 1996.

All bids (three original copies per bid) shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope and properly marked salary history to the Employment Dept., MSU/GM.

### PAINTING OF OCCUPIED AND VACANT APARTMENTS

Any questions pertaining to this bid must be directed to Eugene Kobzay, Maintenance Superintendent at (908) 952-2669.

EDWARD L. ELAER

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1/19/96

FEES: \$163.00

INVITATION FOR BID

The HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF ELIZABETH will receive sealed bids on Wednesday, January 31, 1996 at 10:00 A.M. at 685 Van Rensselaer Street, Paterson, New Jersey for the following items:

### ASBESTOS ABATEMENT AND REMOVAL

at:

1. NJ Transit Terrell Development

Bidders are to submit a sealed envelope marked with the job title as it appears in this advertisement written on an inner envelope containing the bid and on an outer envelope.

A deposit of \$50.00 (Check or Money Order Only), is required and is refundable on return of specifications and documents within ten (10) days from Dated in unopened condition.

All Bidders are to be sure that they must comply with all applicable Federal, State and Municipal Laws, Rules

and Regulations including, but not limited to, those pertaining to Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity, Ownership, Disclosure and Security. Bidders must also comply with NJ Statutes 40A:8-16 with regard to listing subcontractors.

Specifications covering the above requirements may be obtained at the office of the Authority during office hours between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

The Housing Authority of the City of Paterson reserves the right to reject any and all bids or to waive any informalities.

No bid shall be withdrawn for a period of sixty (60) days subsequent to opening of bids without the consent of the Housing Authority of the City of Paterson.

A bid must be accompanied by a Bid Guaranty which shall not be less than five percent (5%) of the amount of the total bid. At the option of the bidder, the guaranty may be certified by a bank, trust, U.S. Government Bond (at current date market value) or a bid bond secured by Guaranty or Assurance Company. Performance and Completion Bonds will be required if the successful bidder.

This project is 100% financed with federal money, under CMAP CGP, which provides funding for various Modernization Activities at NJEA, Riverside Terrace Development.

Equal Opportunity for Businesses and Lower Income Persons (HUD Act of 1968, Section 3)(Applicable to Contracts in Excess of \$500,000.)

(a) The work to be performed under this contract is to be project assisted under a program providing direct federal financial assistance from the Department of Housing and Urban Development to eligible projects.

Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 is amended.

Minority Business Enterprises (MBE) will be offered full opportunity to bid and will be subject to discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex or national origin in consideration of an award.

HOUSING AUTHORITY  
OF THE CITY OF PATERN

1/10/96

PEE: \$126.00

INVITATION TO BID

The Housing Authority of the City of Paterson will receive sealed bids on Wednesday, January 31, 1996 at 10:00 A.M. at 685 Van Rensselaer Street, Paterson, New Jersey for the following items outlined in the Technical Specifications:

### BOLSTER SPRINKLER SYSTEM

NJEA-Riverside Terrace Development

Bidders are to submit a sealed envelope marked with the job title as it appears in this advertisement writing 20 plus days advance, commencing the 5th day on an outer envelope.

A deposit of \$50.00 (Check or Money Order Only), is required and is refundable on return of specifications and documents within ten (10) days from Dated in unopened condition.

All Bidders are hereby notified that they must comply with all applicable Federal, State and Municipal Laws, Rules

and Regulations including, but not limited to, those pertaining to Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity, Ownership, Disclosure and Security. Bidders must also comply with NJ Statutes 40A:8-16 with regard to listing subcontractors.

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Section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 is amended.

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HOUSING AUTHORITY  
OF THE CITY OF PATERN

1/10/96

PEE: \$119.00

INVITATION TO BID

The Housing Authority of the City of Paterson will receive sealed bids on Wednesday, January 31, 1996 at 10:00 A.M. at 685 Van Rensselaer Street, Paterson, New Jersey for the following items outlined in the Technical Specifications:

### RIGHT-OF-WAY PROPERTY LINE SURVEYS, RESEARCH, AND PLANT PREPARATION

HUDSON-BERGEN LIGHT RAIL TRANSIT SYSTEM

Bidders are to submit a sealed envelope marked with the job title as it appears in this advertisement writing 20 plus days advance, commencing the 5th day on an outer envelope.

A deposit of \$50.00 (Check or Money Order Only), is required and is refundable on return of specifications and documents within ten (10) days from Dated in unopened condition.

All Bidders are hereby notified that they must comply with all applicable Federal, State and Municipal Laws, Rules

and Regulations including, but not limited to, those pertaining to Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity, Ownership, Disclosure and Security. Bidders must also comply with NJ Statutes 40A:8-16 with regard to listing subcontractors.

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A bid must be accompanied by a Bid Guaranty which shall not be less than five percent (5%) of the amount of the total bid. At the option of the bidder, the guaranty may be certified by a bank, trust, U.S. Government Bond (at current date market value) or a bid bond secured by Guaranty or Assurance Company. Performance and Completion Bonds will be required if the successful bidder.

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HOUSING AUTHORITY  
OF THE CITY OF PATERN

1/10/96

PEE: \$119.00

INVITATION TO BID

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### SECRETARY

P/T for Library Board, 1 eve per month,

attend meeting and prepare minutes. Send resume by Jan. 22 to: Clark Public Library,

303 Westfield Ave., Clark, NJ 07065.

County Residents are encouraged to apply.

EOE/A.A.

City News Bids and Classifieds work!!! Call Today

1/17/96

PEE: \$247.00

INVITATION FOR BID

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## Business Calendar

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17**  
NEWARK—Business Breakfast Series Workshop "How and Why to Perform a Business Audit," sponsored by the Newark Chamber of Commerce. 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. at the Newark Club. For more info call 201-242-6237, ext. 222.

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 18**  
UNION—Union County EDC holding The New Jersey Small Business Development Center Network workshops on How to obtain a Micro-loan for Businesses in Union County. For more info call 908-238-2245.

**NEW BRUNSWICK**—The New Jersey State Bar Foundation is sponsoring a free seminar on residential Under-ground Oil Tanks at the New Jersey Law Center. Speakers will include attorneys Harriet Jane Olson. To register call 1-800-PRIE-LAW.

**FRIDAY, JANUARY 19**  
CAMDEN—Developing a Business Plan/Marketing Seminars, sponsored by the NSBCB, \$15. For info call 609-225-6221.

**SATURDAY, JANUARY 20**  
MIDDLESEX—Midwest Chapter of NJAMBO Basketball Fund-raiser for Scholarships for Women. For info call 609-395-8717.

## Economic empowerment: a few words to the wise

by James Clingman

"Now is the time—not in some far-off future, but now is the time...for us as a race to prove to the world that...we have the ability and the inclination to do our part in own ing, developing, manufacturing and trading in the natural resources of our country. If we let these golden opportunities slip away, we will be lost. I fear they will never come to us in a like degree again. Let us act...before it is too late, before others come from foreign lands and rob us of our birthright."

Booker T. Washington

Those words were spoken on Aug. 21, 1912. Washington was speaking to the National Negro Business League in Chicago. Haunting, ironic, prophetic? How would you characterize these words? From any direction, they are words that stand at least 75 years behind when it comes to black economic empowerment.

Washington pleaded for his people to work together. He begged for solidarity among black people. He admonished against what has now become a reality for many African Americans: economic apathy and disinterest.

The gravest insult and most dramatic display of his warnings against the futility of merely seeking political offices without economic undergirding can be found in Tuskegee, Ala.

I recently spoke with a friend who had spent some time in Tuskegee last summer. She described a town with little or no economic infrastructure—a town whose residents must travel to other towns for medicine and other vital needs. Tuskegee, where it all began for Booker T. Washington; Tuskegee, where the philosophy of economic self-sufficiency was nurtured everyday, now serves as a monument, in name only,

to the principles that Washington espoused.

Sad to say, many other cities are no better off. Lost somewhere in our zeal to integrate, having access to the economic resources of others, is our own economic plan for survival. We have ignored the words of Washington and many before and after him, and we are steadily making his dire prediction come true.

To some people Washington's ideas were radical. Others talk of black economic unity as being threatening. Yet, people believe his ultimately death, at 58, was contrived in some way. Some believe he was simply murdered.

Whatever the case, Washington spoke words that are eerily haunting and foreboding, even more today than in 1912. He warned us that unless we take responsibility for our own economic destiny we will surely miss out on opportunities that exist in this country. We have already allowed ourselves to be dominated from us, a la the Native Americans. And you know what happened to them.

Our access to this country's natural resources is limited, as Washington predicted it would be if we did not act. Our concentration on gaining high office and being able to spend a "dollar at the opera" blinded us to the fact that we must build our own economic foundation first before we take on others that will not help our community as a whole.

Even today, as in Washington's time, we as a people do not want to hear those words. Needless to say, even today some people are still threatened by the prospect of economic unity among blacks. I do not plan to meet the same demise as Booker T. Washington, but I must continue to exhort my brothers and sisters to move toward economic unity. Not to the exclusion of

by William Reed

Are white people in a conspiratorial effort to keep us down? Or, is it possible that we each have our collective destinies in our own hands, or, at least, in each of our pocketbooks. What we do with our money if we really want to break the effects of racism and discrimination, we could easily do it via our economic power.

If we started off 1996 in a new economic mindset by looking at what minority groups like Jews and Asians have done with their collective actions, and stop thinking of ourselves as "poor" and "minority," we will all recognize what it means to say that our \$400 billion annual income is higher than the gross national product (GNP) of 94 percent of the world's industrialized and developing countries.

But if black people really want financial independence and economic development, we are going to have to take collective action. When we understand that our present situation

can be traced to choices we made in the past, we can use this knowledge to position ourselves to make the choices that guarantee a promising future.

It's not as if we each don't know what the real problem is, rather it is how to take responsibility for our own actions. It is easier for us to blame the white man for our situation than it is to take up our own cross and carry it.

From Chicago's West Side to South Central Los Angeles, we prefer to "diss" white, Arab, Asian and Jewish merchants for discriminating us because it is easier than taking collective actions through our churches and clubs and build our own shopping centers and commercial centers.

Each and every African American, from Boston to Bakerville, knows that we are going to have to improve our financial and economic presence in the American, and world, community or we all will continue, like lemmings, to sink into the sea of

anyone else, white, red or yellow, but unity that includes all African Americans.

When asked in 1907 what black people need most, Washington replied, "Solidarity! We need as a race to pull together. Civilization in any people is to a large extent the ability of the individuals of that people to combine their efforts for the good of the whole; it is the ability, while holding fast to individual differences of opinion and sentiment on minor matters, to be able to put these differences in the background whenever it is necessary to unite for the benefit of the whole community or the whole state."

If we do not learn to work together, to trust one another, to agree to disagree and still be friends and, more importantly, to pool our resources, Washington's "before it's too late" prediction will one day soon reverberate throughout our communities, across this nation, and around the world.

James Clingman is the editor of the Cincinnati Herald newspaper.

decayed.

White people have a right to feel they've done as much "affirmative action" as they should when they look around their offices and factory floors and see numerous black faces.

What they don't see are the other two-thirds of African Americans still looking for opportunities and the opportunities. What they see are we are still self-appointed poverty pimp leaders continually asking them for an "on the hook" to "help us lift our boats off the bottom" of the country's economic rungs.

Structures such as a display of black collective economic development will manifest itself to the world when we own state-of-the-art shopping centers.

We need retail and wholesale distribution businesses owned and operated by numerous groups, organizations and individuals among us, and a presence in the revenue stream that bring cars, clothing, computers, corn flakes and other items into black households. But the problem with blacks

who've reached middle-class status, as well as those of us who're not been as economically fortunate, is that we are individuals who collectively don't see the need to be a part of any collective of black economics.

Even though a larger segment of black America, than any other group, still looks for opportunities and the opportunities. What they see are we are still self-appointed poverty pimp leaders continually asking them for an "on the hook" to "help us lift our boats off the bottom" of the country's economic rungs.

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anyone else, white, red or yellow, but unity that includes all African Americans.

The next time you buy grits or groceries, or go to a garage, try to be "the individual" to jump start black economic development. If we will each personally get off the fence we'll stop talking about the problem—which we do every time we gather at a white-owned hotel or banquet facility.

We all need to look at the economic development and value we can initiate if we made collective investments—first as families, then as community groups and stock clubs. If we are to stop our лимбинг-like behavior we have to shop with each other, put our money in black banks, investment groups, insurance companies and whatever else that will help us achieve strong collective capitalism.

William Reed is publisher of *Who's Who in Black Corporate America*.

**ALL NEW**

**UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT**

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**YOUR MEAT SUPER CENTER**

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**\$1 off Any case of oxtails, chicken legs, quarters or wings with coupon only.**

Coupon good thru 1-31-96

317 Central Avenue, East Orange, NJ  
TEL: (201) 673-8851.  
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Your Families First Card is Welcome Here!

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Best Meat Pian in Town! More For Your Money.  
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Store Hours: Mon.-Sat. 8 a.m.-8 p.m.,  
Sun. 8 a.m.-6 p.m.

## Announcing a Brand New Way To Learn About Having a Baby.



### No Time for Weekly Childbirth Classes?

Planning for the birth of your child is important, but it can be tough for busy couples to work their schedules around weekly Lamaze classes. At Muhlenberg, we understand. That's why we offer an alternative.

### Announcing Muhlenberg's Lamaze "Getaway Weekend"

Now couples can learn Lamaze techniques during a romantic getaway at the Somerset Marriott Hotel. In one relaxing weekend, couples can learn everything they need to know about Lamaze and enjoy a welcome break from their hectic schedules. It's our newest program to help families welcome a new generation of miracles.

### Providing Support Before, During and After Delivery

Whether you are giving birth for the first time or adding to a growing family, Muhlenberg offers educational support to suit your needs. A variety of educational classes are offered at Muhlenberg and off site, on weekdays, evenings, and weekends.

### Want More Information?

When you are expecting a baby, Muhlenberg provides the assistance that gives you, your family, and your new baby a strong, healthy start. Call the Generations of Miracles Hotline at (908) 668-2353 to reserve your place for the Getaway Weekend in early February.



MUHLENBERG REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER, INC.

VHA United to Improve America's Health

Affiliated with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey/Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Park Avenue & Randolph Road

Plainfield, NJ 07061

## Students trapped

Continued from page 1

ers when they would be able to go home. "The cops told him that we could go when they picked up 40 people."

Political activist and podiatrist

## News

Continued from page 3

eral different White House Administrations, won the "Oscar" of public relations, the Silver Anvil Award. He had taught public relations at Howard University for 17 years.

—WASHINGTON, DC

### BLACKS LESS LIKELY TO GAIN MILITARY PROMOTIONS

A Government study found that blacks in the military are less likely to gain promotions than their white counterparts, but stopped short of blaming the problem on racism. The study by the General Accounting Office (GAO) found "statistically significant" evidence that blacks get promoted less often than would be expected based on their numbers in the armed services. Women appeared to be gaining proportionally more promotions than would be expected. The GAO reached no conclusions as to why disparities in promotions, but recommended that the Defense Department improve its equal opportunity monitoring.—WASHINGTON, DC

Dr. Colleen B. Walton, of Newark and a friend of Davis, believes that Councilman Bradley and Mayor James are very sensitive to any calls about loitering. "They want any excuse to make themselves look good and then they want to pat themselves on the back." She was outraged that, "Our young men cannot even wait for a bus in broad daylight without being accosted by the police."

The young men were advised to engage the services of the Public Defender's Office, which encountered an oddly shaped room with dull off-white walls, a worn all-weather rug, a glass partition and twisted people shuffling forms while "going by the numbers." One of the workers was detached and perfunctory in her manner and treated the whole manner like the luncheon at a fast food counter downtown. "Next, Do we work? Next, I'm only one person so you gotta wait. Next, I'll get someone who speaks Spanish. Next."

The Mayor's Office, Councilman Donald Bradley and State Senator Ronald Rice could not be reached for comment on the matter of the sweep. Councilwoman At-Large Mildred Crump was amazed by the whole affair, "No one told me about any of this but I'm going to call the Director's Office and have them check." Mrs. Griffin from City Hall called and he also deferred to Det. Collins in the Director's Office.

Davis and McCullough were given a trial date of April 8, 1996.